

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claim Form and Claim as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

1 (currently amended): A crystal unit comprising:

a crystal blank having a hole defined in at least one principal surface thereof, said crystal blank having (i) a region of a reduced thickness including said hole, said region serving as a vibrating region, and (ii) a holding region surrounding the vibrating region, said holding region having a thickness greater than that of the vibrating region;

excitation electrodes disposed respectively on opposite principal surfaces of said crystal blank in said vibrating region;

extension electrodes extending respectively from said excitation electrodes to respective opposite ends of one side of said crystal blank; and

a casing having a step formed therein;

wherein said opposite ends of the one side of the crystal blank are fixed to said step by a joining member, and said crystal blank has a notched portion ~~defined~~disposed exclusively in the holding region ~~therein~~ between said one side and said vibrating region and separated from the vibrating region, said notched portion extending from at least one transverse edge of said crystal blank in a transverse direction of said crystal blank.

2 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said crystal blank comprises an AT-cut crystal blank having a substantially rectangular shape, said one side comprising a shorter side of said crystal blank.

3 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said crystal blank has a pair of said notched portions extending from respective transverse edges of said crystal blank.

4 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said joining member is made of an electrically conductive adhesive.

5 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 4, wherein said electrically conductive adhesive comprises an electrically conductive adhesive mainly composed of epoxy resin or polyimides.

6 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said joining member is made of a brazing material comprising a eutectic alloy.

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7 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein the sum of areas of said extension electrodes in a region from said notched portion to said one side of the crystal blank is substantially equal to an area of said region on said one principal surface.

8 (original): The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said casing is made of ceramics.

9 (new): A crystal unit comprising:

a crystal blank having a hole defined in at least one principal surface thereof, said crystal blank having a region of a reduced thickness including said hole, said region serving as a vibrating region;

excitation electrodes disposed respectively on opposite principal surfaces of said crystal blank in said vibrating region;

extension electrodes extending respectively from said excitation electrodes to respective opposite ends of one side of said crystal blank; and

a casing having a step formed therein;

wherein said opposite ends of the one side of the crystal blank are fixed to said step by a joining member, and said crystal blank has a notched portion disposed therein between said one side and said vibrating region in closer proximity to said one side than to said vibrating region, said notched portion extending from at least one transverse edge of said crystal blank in a transverse direction of said crystal blank.

10 (new): The crystal unit according to claim 9, wherein the one side of the crystal blank is fixed exclusively to the casing via the step.